to Madras to fetch the battery. Till that time, number of passengers were held up at the airport till late in the night. Afterwards, the jeeps of the Civil Aviation Department were used to pull out the Vayudoot plane. Somehow or other they started the engine and the people were able to return to Madras. Will the hon. Minister let us know whether minimum requirement if spare batterits would be made available to run the engine at Thanjavur airport hereafter?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: First of all, I will find out about what the hon. Member has stated.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Be generous to Tamil Nadu.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Yes, yes I am always genorous. That is why when the Vayudoot service was started, this was mainly meant as a bush operation so that with the minimum facilities we should be able to start. Otherwise, I do not have even the budget. It requires crores and crores of rupees. I am asking the State Governments to come and help us and your State has always been cooperative. (*Interruptions*). I said that your State has always been very cooperative.

SHRI T. R. BALU: But what about the engine?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I just said that I will find out.

*204. *The questioners Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury and Shri Muktiar Singh Malik were absent. For answer, col.* 39 infra)

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 4TH PAY COMMISSION PAY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE PHARMACIST IN THE UNION TERRITORIES

*205. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pharmacists working in the Union Territories have been agitating for removing disparity between the pay scales of the Union Territory and the Central Government Pharmacists following the implementation of the Fourth Pay Commission Recommendations; and

(b) if so, whether Government have received representations from the Joint Council of Pharmacists for removing the disparity and, if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have received representations on this subject. However, the Government are advised that the present scales of pay of Pharmacists have been fixed in accordance with the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission.

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : क्या यह सही है कि चौथे वेतन आयोग ने जो अपनी संतुति की उन्होंने फार्मासिस्टों के लिए 1350-2200 का वेतनमान तय किया लेकिन उसकी संतुति पर भारत सरकार के वित्त मंत्रालय ने जब वेतनमान तय किया तो जो यूनियन टेरिटरीज दिल्ली में फार्मासिस्ट हैं उनके लिए 1200–2040 का वेतनमान और जो केन्द्र सरकार के फार्मासिस्ट हैं उनके लिए 1350–2200 का वेतनमान दिया ?

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE: Sir, I really do not know what disparity is there. The Pay Commission had not given or recommended any pay scale for the post of pharmacists working in the Union Territories. They have meerly given recommendations for revising the scale of pay of different posts. They recommended that the post in pre-revised scale of Rs. 330 to 560 may be given the revised scale of Rs. 1200 to 2010. As the pre-revised scale of pharmacists in the Union Territories was Rs. 330 to 460, the revised scale of pharmacists is Rs. 1200 to 2040 in terms of the recommendations of the Commission. You will see, Sir, that the Commission has not revised the pay scales of pharmacists, they have recommended pay scales for all categories of employees in this particular grade.

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : श्रीमन्, चौथे वेतन आयोग की जो संस्तुति आयी है दोनों प्रकार के फार्मासिस्टों के लिए —केन्द्रीय सरकार के और यूनियन टेरिटरीज के, तो क्या उनके वेतनमान इसके पहले एक समान थे, उनमें कोई अंतर नहीं था ? वे वेतनमान क्या थे क्या मंत्री जी बताने की कृपा करेंगी ?

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE: Sir, we have seen the recommendations, but that has not yet been examined.

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: My question was what was the pay scale of pharmacists just before the recommendation of the present Fourth Pay Commission? What was the scale of pay fixed by the Finance Ministry both under the Central Government and under Delhi Administration?

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE: Sir, we took up the matter with the Finance Ministry. They have stated that the Executive Councillor (Health) of Delhi Administration had taken up the matter with the then Finance Minister for revision of the pay scale of pharmacists of Delhi Administration. The then Finance Minister had categorically stated that it was not possible to reopen the issue as it would have wide repercussions not only among the employees of the Union Territories but also the Central Government employees.

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Sir, I seek your protection. That is not my question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am going to ask that question. What was the pay scale of Pharmacists in the Central Government before the Pay Commission's recommendations?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, the scale of pay of Central Government Pharmacists was Rs. 330—560 and that of Union Territory Pharmacists was also Rs. 330—560. This is a matter in which a view has been taken at Government level. The view is, as has been very clearly stated by the then Finance Minister, that the Pay Commission has taken into account all these matters before coming up with their recommendations and he does not feel it possible or feasible to reopen the issue. Now that view having been taken, we stick to the view at the moment, until such time as we are able to take another view. We are trying, but at the mement the view that has already been taken is my view. That is all I could say.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, the Fourth Pay Commission has recommended for the lower category of Pharmacists Rs. 1350—2200, for Selection Grade Rs. 1400—2600 and for higher grade Rs. 1640—2900. The Central Government employees working as Pharmacists are getting a scale of pay and the Union Territory employees have been discriminated against. Especially even in the Union Territories the Delhi Administration is fixing a higher scale of pay when compared to Pondicherry and Goa. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the workload of the Pharmacists, either in the Central Government or in the Union Territories, is the same, the duties and responsibilities are also the same. That being the case, it is the primary duty of the Health Ministry to convince the Finance Ministry to fix the scale of pay on par with the Central Government employees. Therefore I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Health Ministry will take up the issue with the Finance Ministry and convince them about the same nature of workload and duties and responsibilities of the Pharmacists and have the scale of pay fixed on par with the Central Government.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: It is not stricity true that the functions, workload etc. are all the same. There are differences, but we have called for details from the Union Territories about the workload, about the duties, about the functions etc. and after that information is received, we wish to take it up again on behlf of Pharmacists with the Finance Ministry. But right now I have submitted to the House the view taken by the Government as it stands ..